

Message

From: Goerke, Ariadne [Goerke.Ariadne@epa.gov]
Sent: 11/24/2020 3:54:17 PM
To: Kupchan, Simma [Kupchan.Simma@epa.gov]; Messier, Dawn [Messier.Dawn@epa.gov]; Fotouhi, David [Fotouhi.David@epa.gov]; Willey, Katharine [willey.katharine@epa.gov]; Neugeboren, Steven [Neugeboren.Steven@epa.gov]
CC: Wade, Alexis [Wade.Alexis@epa.gov]; Wehling, Carrie [Wehling.Carrie@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: NOON DEADLINE: PRESS REGION 4: Tampa Bay Times request -- Florida/404 permitting

Thank you Simma. I plan to forward this soon, so if there are additional edits from anyone else please provide asap.

Ariadne Goerke

Acting Associate Deputy General Counsel
Office of General Counsel
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-5471 *office*

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP) *cell*

From: Kupchan, Simma <Kupchan.Simma@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2020 10:52 AM
To: Messier, Dawn <Messier.Dawn@epa.gov>; Goerke, Ariadne <Goerke.Ariadne@epa.gov>; Fotouhi, David <Fotouhi.David@epa.gov>; Willey, Katharine <willey.katharine@epa.gov>; Neugeboren, Steven <Neugeboren.Steven@epa.gov>
Cc: Wade, Alexis <Wade.Alexis@epa.gov>; Wehling, Carrie <Wehling.Carrie@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: NOON DEADLINE: PRESS REGION 4: Tampa Bay Times request -- Florida/404 permitting

Thanks! I just made a few edits to:

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP) Otherwise looks fine.

Simma Kupchan
EPA Office of General Counsel
Water Law Office
WJC North Building # 7426Q
202-564-3105

From: Messier, Dawn <Messier.Dawn@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2020 10:42 AM
To: Goerke, Ariadne <Goerke.Ariadne@epa.gov>; Fotouhi, David <Fotouhi.David@epa.gov>; Willey, Katharine <willey.katharine@epa.gov>; Neugeboren, Steven <Neugeboren.Steven@epa.gov>
Cc: Wade, Alexis <Wade.Alexis@epa.gov>; Kupchan, Simma <Kupchan.Simma@epa.gov>; Wehling, Carrie <Wehling.Carrie@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: NOON DEADLINE: PRESS REGION 4: Tampa Bay Times request -- Florida/404 permitting

Simma – see below. Thanks!

Dawn Messier
Deputy Associate General Counsel for Water
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460
202-564-5517

From: Messier, Dawn

Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2020 10:41 AM

To: Goerke, Ariadne <Goerke.Ariadne@epa.gov>; Fotouhi, David <fotouhi.david@epa.gov>; Willey, Katharine <willey.katharine@epa.gov>; Neugeboren, Steven <Neugeboren.Steven@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: NOON DEADLINE: PRESS REGION 4: Tampa Bay Times request -- Florida/404 permitting

Forwarding to Simma for response. Cc'ing Carrie and Alexis as well.

Thanks!

Dawn Messier
Deputy Associate General Counsel for Water
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460
202-564-5517

From: Goerke, Ariadne <Goerke.Ariadne@epa.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2020 10:28 AM

To: Fotouhi, David <Fotouhi.David@epa.gov>; Willey, Katharine <willey.katharine@epa.gov>; Neugeboren, Steven <Neugeboren.Steven@epa.gov>; Messier, Dawn <Messier.Dawn@epa.gov>

Subject: NOON DEADLINE: PRESS REGION 4: Tampa Bay Times request -- Florida/404 permitting

Hi All,

Region 4 would appreciate a quick review from OGC (in red below). Please let me know if you have any comments by their noon deadline, thanks.

Ariadne

Ariadne Goerke

Acting Associate Deputy General Counsel

Office of General Counsel

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

202-564-5471 *office*

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP) *cell*

From: Jenkins, Brandi <Jenkins.Brandi@epa.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2020 9:08 AM

To: regionalpress <regionalpress@epa.gov>

Cc: McFaul, Jessica <mcfaul.jessica@epa.gov>; Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Risley, David <Risley.David@epa.gov>; Goerke, Ariadne <Goerke.Ariadne@epa.gov>; Conrad, Daniel <conrad.daniel@epa.gov>; Wise, Allison <Wise.Allison@epa.gov>

Subject: PRESS REGION 4: Tampa Bay Times request -- Florida/404 permitting

Below is the draft response approved by OW. I'm also adding OGC for a quick review. Note the reporter's deadline is noon today.

- Brandi

Inquiry:

working on a story about public comments submitted for Florida's proposal to assume 404 permitting duties. I'm on deadline and am looking for a response by tomorrow (11/24) at noon.

Of the 446 comments available online earlier this month that I was able to review, at least 394 were opposed to the state taking over the programming. Among the criticisms were that the state environmental agency is beholden to developers and political influence, has seen staffing reductions including vacant positions and has not provided a clear breakdown of the exact waters it will seek to oversee.

I'm hoping for comment from EPA on the thrust of these comments. How will the agency consider these comments in its decision? What weight are they given? Additionally, when does it plan to make its decision? Is it possible the EPA could extend the current timeline, including leaving the decision to a future administration?

Proposed Response:

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

From: Zachary Sampson <zsampson@tampabay.com>

Sent: Monday, November 23, 2020 11:05 AM

To: Jenkins, Brandi <Jenkins.Brandi@epa.gov>; Press <Press@epa.gov>

Subject: Tampa Bay Times request -- Florida/404 permitting

Hello,

I'm the environmental reporter at the Tampa Bay Times working on a story about public comments submitted for Florida's proposal to assume 404 permitting duties. I'm on deadline and am looking for a response by tomorrow (11/24) at noon.

Of the 446 comments available online earlier this month that I was able to review, at least 394 were opposed to the state taking over the programming. Among the criticisms were that the state environmental agency is beholden to developers and political influence, has seen staffing reductions including vacant positions and has not provided a clear breakdown of the exact waters it will seek to oversee.

I'm hoping for comment from EPA on the thrust of these comments. How will the agency consider these comments in its decision? What weight are they given? Additionally, when does it plan to make its decision? Is it possible the EPA could extend the current timeline, including leaving the decision to a future administration?

My cell is 401-474-2585.

Thanks,
Zack

Zack Sampson

Staff Writer

Tampa Bay Times

Desk: 727-893-8804

Email: zsampson@tampabay.com | Twitter: @zacksampson